

Michael Joseph Fenno

Michael Joseph Fenno passed away on April 14, 2022 in Surprise, Arizona. He was born on August 14, 1943 in Olivia, Minnesota, the 9th in a family of 11 children. He spent most of his youth in Crookston, Minnesota but was already infused with the travelling spirit. The majority of his working life he enjoyed a career as a construction laborer, always embracing and singing the praises of Union membership and the lifelong benefit of having a pension. He spent 17 years working on the Alaskan Pipeline and finished out his career with Western Washington Labor Union. After retiring, he enjoyed nearly 20 years traveling the country in his RV. He visited every state capitol and experienced the sights and relationships built all over the United States. Some of his favorite places were where he spent quality time with close friends and family in Seattle, Phoenix and Minneapolis. He loved driving on the Pacific Coast Highway up and down California and his travels abroad as well. Many who knew him will remember his love of talking (and arguing!) and his stories from the road. He really enjoyed going to movies and sometimes saw the ones he loved multiple times as he said he always picked up something he missed the first time. He was active with the Elks, Eagles, and Moose Lodges along with the American Legion. Around the lodges in Arizona he was known as "8-Ball" due to his always present fashion icon of the 8-ball skull cap. He spent his last year in Surprise, Arizona, loving life in a fun and active senior RV Resort. He was able to spend nine wonderful months getting to know his precious great-granddaughter Harper who happily lived close enough to see often. Everyone who saw him was always treated to pictures of the baby he loved so very much.



Michael is survived by his daughter Rachel, grandson Jordan (Ally) and great-granddaughter Harper in Arizona; his son Paul (Suzanne) and granddaughters Sophia and Emme in Minnesota. He is also survived by his sisters Lorraine (Cy) Weiser, Mary (Chris) Hagelie and Margaret (Rod) Eastby and brothers Jerry (Heidi) and Steve (Maureen), along with a plethora of cousins, nieces and nephews, many of whom he kept up with on social media. He selflessly donated his body to science and requested that no funeral or service take place.